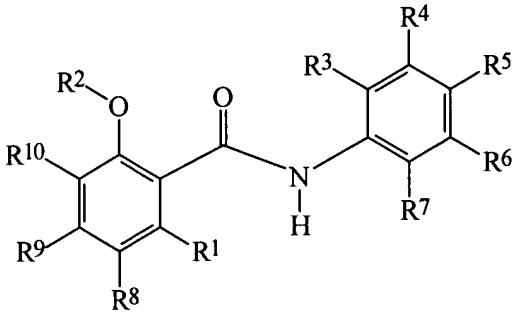
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please delete all prior lists of claims in the application and insert the following list of claims:

Claims 1-4 (CANCELED).

5. (NEW) A compound of structural formula (I) for use as an activator of histone acetyltransferases:

(I)



wherein:

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1- to C_{16}-alkyl and C_1- to C_{16}-alkene;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, and C_1- to C_6-alkyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1- to C_6-alkyl, CF_3, CCl_3, Cl_3, F, Cl, I, NO_2, and CN;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1- to C_6-alkyl, CF_3, CCl_3, CI_3, F, Cl, I, NO_2, and CN;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1- to C_6-alkyl, CF_3, CCl_3, CI_3, F, Cl, I, and NO_2;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1- to C_6-alkyl, CF_3, CCl_3, CI_3, F, Cl, I, NO_2, and CN;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1- to

C_6-alkyl, CF_3, CCl_3, CI_3, F, Cl, I, NO_2, and CN; and

R^8, R^9, and R^{10} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1- to C_{16}-alkyl, C_1- to C_{16}-alkene, and C_1- to C_{16}-alkoxy;

and salts thereof.

6. (NEW) The compound of claim 5, wherein:

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl, t-butyl, C_8H_{18}, $C_{15}H_{26}$, $C_{15}H_{28}$, $C_{15}H_{30}$, and $C_{15}H_{32}$;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl and t-butyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl and t-butyl, CF_3, CCl_3, CI_3, F, Cl, I, NO_2, and CN;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl and t-butyl, CF_3, CCl_3, CI_3, F, Cl, I, NO_2, CN;

R^5 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl and t-butyl, CF_3, CCl_3, CI_3, F, Cl, I, NO_2;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl and t-butyl, CF_3, CCl_3, CI_3, F, Cl, I, NO_2, CN; and

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of H, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, n-butyl and t-butyl, CF_3, CCl_3, CI_3, F, Cl, I, NO_2, CN.

7. (NEW) The compound of claim 5, selected from the group consisting of:

N-(4-nitro-3-trifluromethyl-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-benzamide;

N-(4-nitro-3-trifluromethyl-phenyl)-2-propoxy-benzamide;

N-(4-nitro-3-trifluromethyl-phenyl)-2-isopropoxy-benzamide;

N-(4-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;

N-(4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;

N-(4-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-methoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;

N-(4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-methoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;
N-(4-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-n-propoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;
N-(4-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-isopropoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;
N-(4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-n-propoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;
N-(4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-isopropoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;
N-(4-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-benzamide;
N-(4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-benzamide;
N-(4-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-methoxy-benzamide;
N-(4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-methoxy-benzamide;
N-(4-chloro-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-n-propoxy-benzamide;
N-(4-cyano-3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-2-n-propoxy-benzamide;
N-(4-nitro-3-trifluromethyl-phenyl)-2-ethoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;
N-(4-nitro-3-trifluromethyl-phenyl)-2-methoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide;
N-(4-nitro-3-trifluromethyl-phenyl)-2-propoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide; and
N-(4-nitro-3-trifluromethyl-phenyl)-2-isopropoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzamide.

8. (NEW) The compound of claim 5, wherein R^1, R^2, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} are defined such that the ring moiety to which R^1, R^2, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} defines a moiety selected from the group consisting of anacardic acid, anacardic aldehyde, anacardic alcohol, 2-ethoxy-6-pentadecyl-benzoic acid, cardanol, and cardol.

9. (NEW) The compound of Claim 5, wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of C_{12}- to C_{16}-alkyl and C_{12}- to C_{16}-alkene, and R^2, R^8, R^9 and R^{10} are hydrogen.

10. (NEW) A method to prepare compounds of claim 5, the method comprising: condensing O-alkyl anacardic acid halides or suitable derivatives thereof, with a suitably-substituted aniline to yield a benzamide compound as recited in claim 5.

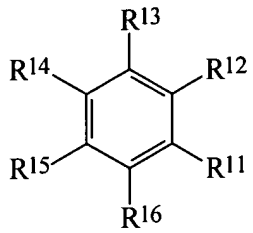
11. (NEW) A method of treating a patient suffering from diseases due to defects in gene regulation, including cancer, the method comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound of claim 5 or a pharmaceutically suitable salt thereof, wherein the amount is sufficient to activate histone acetyltransferases.

12. (NEW) The method of claim 11, which is a method to treat a disease selected from the group consisting of cancer, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), HIV infection, and asthma.

13. (NEW) A method of activating histone acetyltransferases in a patient requiring same, the method comprising administering to the patient an amount of a compound of claim 5 or a pharmaceutically suitable salt thereof, wherein the amount is sufficient to activate histone acetyltransferases.

14. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition for treating cancer, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), HIV infection, and asthma, the composition comprising an anti-cancer-, anti-AIDS-, anti-HIV- or anti-asthma-effective amount of a compound of claim 5 or a pharmaceutically suitable salt thereof, in combination with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.

15. (NEW) A method of inhibiting histone acetyltransferases in a patient requiring same, the method comprising administering to the patient an amount of a compound of formula (II)



R^{11} is methyl, hydroxyl, carboxylic, O-methoxy, O-ethoxy, n-propoxy, O-isopropoxy, n-butoxy, t-butoxy, C_8H_{18}, $C_{15}H_{26}$, $C_{15}H_{28}$, $C_{15}H_{30}$, $C_{15}H_{32}$;

R^{12} is hydrogen, methyl, hydroxyl, carboxylic, O-methoxy, O-ethoxy, n-propoxy, O-isopropoxy, n-butoxy, t-butoxy, C_8H_{18}, $C_{15}H_{26}$, $C_{15}H_{28}$, $C_{15}H_{30}$, $C_{15}H_{32}$;

R^{13} is hydrogen, methyl, hydroxyl, carboxylic, O-methoxy, O-ethoxy, n-propoxy , O-isopropoxy, n-butoxy, t-butoxy, C_8H_{18}, $C_{15}H_{26}$, $C_{15}H_{28}$, $C_{15}H_{30}$, $C_{15}H_{32}$;

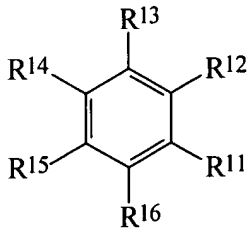
R^{14} is hydrogen, methyl, hydroxyl, carboxylic, O-methoxy, O-ethoxy, n-propoxy , O-isopropoxy, n-butoxy, t-butoxy, C8H18 ,C15H26 , C15H28, C15H30, C15H32;

R^{15} is hydrogen, methyl, hydroxyl, carboxylic, O-methoxy, O-ethoxy, n-propoxy , O-isopropoxy, n-butoxy, t-butoxy, C_8H_{18}, $C_{15}H_{26}$, $C_{15}H_{28}$, $C_{15}H_{30}$, $C_{15}H_{32}$; and

R^{16} is hydrogen, methyl, hydroxyl, carboxylic, O-methoxy, O-ethoxy, n-propoxy, O-isopropoxy, n-butoxy, t-butoxy, C_8H_{18}, $C_{15}H_{26}$, $C_{15}H_{28}$, $C_{15}H_{30}$, $C_{15}H_{32}$;

or a pharmaceutically suitable salt thereof, wherein the amount is sufficient to inhibit histone acetyltransferases in the patient.

14. (NEW) A pharmaceutical composition for treating cancer, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), HIV infection, and asthma, the composition comprising an anti-cancer-, anti-AIDS-, anti-HIV- or anti-asthma-effective amount of a compound formula (II)



wherein R^{11} through R^{16} are as recited in claim 13, or a pharmaceutically suitable salt thereof, in combination with a pharmaceutically suitable carrier.